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# ADVISORY CIRCULAR

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

**SUBJECT:** INSTALLATION APPROVAL ON TRANSPORT CATEGORY AIRPLANES OF CARGO  
UNIT LOAD DEVICES APPROVED AS MEETING THE CRITERIA IN NAS 3610

1. **PURPOSE.** This circular sets forth an acceptable means, but not the sole means, of complying with the requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR's) applicable to the installation on transport category airplanes of cargo unit load devices approved as meeting the criteria in NAS 3610.
2. **REFERENCE REGULATIONS.** FAR 25, Section 25.1301.
3. **DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this advisory circular, a cargo unit load device is a device for grouping, transferring, and restraining cargo for transit. For example, it may consist of a pallet and net, or it may be a container.
4. **BACKGROUND.** Under Flight Standards Order 8110.5, dated 15 October 1969, the FAA provided for the use of National Aerospace Standard NAS 3610, "Cargo Unit Load Devices - Specification For," as an acceptable basis for the approval of pallets, nets, and cargo containers for use on transport category airplanes. However, Order 8110.5 does not provide for the installation of the cargo unit load devices on the airplane.
5. **ACCEPTABLE MEANS OF COMPLIANCE.** The installation of a cargo unit load device on a transport category airplane is acceptable under FAR 25, Section 25.1301 when -
  - (a) The airplane is type certificated with a cargo restraint system that is compatible with specification NAS 3610, and the manuals referenced in the type certificate data sheet include (by NAS 3610 classification identifier) the cargo unit load device that may be installed, its appropriate load rating, and instructions and limitations on its use. For example, in the case of a pallet-net cargo unit load device, the manuals should identify the pallet-net combination that is compatible under the criteria of NAS 3610;

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- (b) The cargo unit load device is approved as meeting the applicable criteria in specification NAS 3610 and is identified with the appropriate classification identifier set forth in NAS 3610, and any components such as a pallet or net are individually identified (components of a cargo unit load device such as a pallet or net may be approved separately); and
- (c) The installed cargo unit load device can be secured in accordance with the instructions contained in the manuals referenced in the type certificate data sheet, and is within the allowable geometrical profile (of the aircraft interior) established by the airplane manufacturer.

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